

REMARKS**Summary**

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. Claims 13 and 21 have been rewritten. No new matter has been added.

Specification

Applicant has amended the specification only to correct minor grammatical errors.

Response to Applicant's previous arguments

In the Response to the previous Office Action submitted to the USPTO on December 5, 2005, Applicant traversed all of the rejections. In the Response to Applicant's Arguments section in the instant Office Action, only the traverse to Claim 1 was discussed. Accordingly, although Applicant provided arguments traversing the remaining rejections, a rebuttal of Applicant's arguments has not been presented in the instant Office Action. Thus, for at least this reason, if the Examiner does not believe that the application is in condition for allowance after this response, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a new Office Action to give Applicant a chance to respond to Examiner's newly presented reasoning for claims other than Claim 1.

Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Krupka et al. (U.S. Patent 5,483,467; "Krupka"), and Claims 5-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Krupka in view of Smith (U.S. Patent 5,583,874). Applicant traverses the rejections.

Claim 1 recites a revision system that comprises, *inter alia*, data ports, local system ports, and at least one visual indicator corresponding to and disposed proximately to at least a plurality of the data ports. When one of the data ports is placed in communication with one of the local system ports, the visual indicator corresponding to that data port may display information about the data port. Thus, multiple visual indicators are present, and at least one visual indicator is

disposed proximately to each data port of a set of the data ports (the set includes from two to all of the data ports).

Krupka in col. 1, lines 53-58, for example, teaches an apparatus for identifying the existence of signal paths along conductors between ports (scanner 30), and an output apparatus (computer 10) coupled to the identifying apparatus. The output apparatus provides an output indication of a connection pattern of the system. Throughout the remainder of the text, the only specifics of this output apparatus are provided in passages such as those of col. 6, lines 62-65, in which Krupka states that, “[t]he scanner 30 may provide an interconnection status output to computer 10 or to any other computer or display in the system, including, for example, a dedicated output device.” Thus, Krupka teaches that an output device displays an indication of the connection pattern determined by the scanner 30.

However, Claim 1 recites that the visual indicator is disposed proximately to the corresponding data port. Nowhere, in either the figures or the text, does Krupka disclose the physical location of the output device. Nor does Krupka disclose the relationship between the physical location of the output device and the ports, unlike the arrangement recited in Claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Krupka does not anticipate or disclose the arrangement of Claim 1. Accordingly, Claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

In the Response to Applicant’s Arguments section in the instant Office Action, it is asserted that Krupka discloses the arrangement of Claim 1. In response to this assertion, Applicant reiterates certain statements made in the previous response. As provided in col. 6, lines 58-62, for example, Krupka discloses an arrangement in which the scanner 30 automatically and continuously senses the interconnection arrangement of the patching cables, and thus senses the interconnection status of the various computer ports 16 and user ports 20. As discussed in the previous response, such an arrangement has been described in the instant application as the normal operation of the system.

During normal operation of the system, a full scan and comparative analysis, such as that in Krupka, is repeated such that the entire configuration can be determined at each polling and the polling results can be compared to an immediately previous polling to indicate any configuration change. This full scanning and analysis process may be lengthy and thus cause significant delay

between pollings. During a reconfiguration, such a delay may add significant time to the reconfiguration process because the revisor has to wait for the system to complete a scan and analysis to confirm that each configuration change completed is correct.

One embodiment of the instant apparatus, however, uses a specialized targeted scan or analysis of scan results during reconfiguration. Such a targeted scan or analysis reduces the time delay while permitting confirmation of the changes made. This increases the efficiency of the reconfiguration in computational power, as well as time spent by the revisor(s). Thus, such an embodiment is clearly differentiated from that of the normal operation of Krupka.

Turning to the remaining claims, Claim 5 recites, *inter alia*, a portable information module that is connectable to a local system port. When the portable information module is connected to a local system port, the portable information module may be placed into communication with and display information about a particular data port.

Krupka does not anticipate or suggest a portable information module. The Examiner relies on Smith to remedy this deficiency.

As above, Applicant traversed the rejection in response to the previous Office Action, which the Examiner did not rebut. To reiterate and amplify the previously presented arguments, however: Smith does not anticipate or suggest a portable information module such as that recited in Claim 5. Smith discloses a portable tester for LANs. To test the status of a hub 10 (system port), a cable is connected between the hub and a hub jack 40 of the tester and a “push to test” switch 50 pressed. To test a network interface card 28 of a PC 16 (data port), a cable 32 is connected between the PC and a PC jack 38 on the hub and the push to test switch 50 pressed. If the hub/PC is working, various LEDs on the tester will glow. More specifically, the tester generates pulses to cause any PC connected to the PC jack to think it is connected to a hub and to send data packets intended for the hub to the tester or to cause the hub connected to the hub jack to think it is connected to PCs and to send data packets intended for the PCs to the tester.

Smith teaches that only the hub OR the PC can be tested at one time when using the portable link tester; that is, Smith teaches that the hub and PC are disconnected during testing. As Smith makes clear, e.g. in the Abstract and Summary, under no circumstances when the tester is used are the hub and PC simultaneously connected together.

Accordingly, Smith does not teach an arrangement in which, when the portable information module is connected to a *local system port*, the portable information module may be placed into communication with and display information about a particular data port.

For at least these reasons, neither Krupka nor Smith, alone or in combination, anticipate or suggest the arrangement of Claim 5. Accordingly, Claim 5 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 13 and 21 have been rewritten to incorporate limitations similar to those of Claim 5. Accordingly, Claims 13 and 21 are patentable over the cited references for at least the above arguments pertaining to Claim 5.

In addition, the Office Action indicated that Krupka disclosed all of the arrangements of Claims 23-25 excepting a portable information module. However, each of these claims recites port plates, in addition to reciting data ports and local system ports. The Office Action does not specifically point out where port plates are disclosed in Krupka. This is because, in fact, nowhere does Krupka teach port plates.

Moreover, nor does Krupka teach one or more visual indicators corresponding to and disposed proximately to each of a number of port plates, or that the visual indicator corresponding to the port plate displays information about the port plate when the port plate is placed in communication with a local system port, as recited in Claim 23. Further, Krupka does not teach that the portable information module may be placed into communication with and display information about different port plates, as recited in Claim 24. Similarly, Krupka does not teach the method of Claim 25, which contains similar limitations regarding port plates.

For at least these additional reasons, Claims 23-25 are patentable over the cited references.

Moreover, although no further arguments are required for dependent Claims 2-4, 6-12, 14-20, and 22, Applicant submits that at least some of the elements in these claims are neither anticipated nor suggested by the cited references. For example, none of the cited references anticipate or suggest arrangements in which the scanner polls at least the data port connected to the portable information module *upon connection* of the portable information module with the connected data port (Claim 9), at least one of the data ports includes a port plate disposed proximately thereto (Claim 10, 18, 22), one of the data ports includes a patch cord plug inserted therein, the patch cord plug disposed at an end of the patch cord and including a plug extension

for contacting the port plate when the patch cord plug is inserted in the data port (Claim 11, 19), or the patch cord plug includes a plug plate thereon, the plug plate being connectable to the portable information module (Claim 12, 20). In fact, the Office Action does not even mention these elements or specify where in Krupka such elements may be found.

Moreover, although the Office Action asserts that Krupka discloses the arrangement of Claim 7, which recites specifics of a second portable information module, Applicant traverses this rejection. As the rejection of Claim 5, the independent claim upon which Claim 7 is based, indicates, Krupka does not disclose a portable information module. Accordingly, the specific lines noted in the Office Action regarding Krupka have no bearing on such a feature. Further, although Smith is used to provide portable information module, nowhere does Smith teach an arrangement with multiple portable information modules, let alone an arrangement in which both modules are able to function simultaneously.

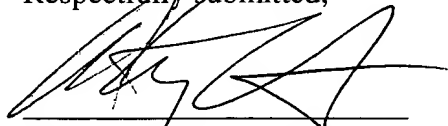
Note that the above is merely exemplary as an incomplete listing of claims for which the cited references do not anticipate or suggest the elements.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Claims 2-4, 6-12, 14-20, and 22 are independently patentable over the cited references.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be desirable to clear up further issues, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number below. No fees are believed to be due with the submission of this response, but the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deemed necessary, except the issue fee, to deposit account number 16-0228.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony F. Curtis, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 46,193

Attorney for Applicant

Dated: April 24, 2006

Panduit Corp.
Legal Department - TP12
17301 S. Ridgeland Avenue
Tinley Park, Illinois 60477-3091
(708) 532-1800, Ext. 1369